

Docket: 2787  
(203-3103PCTUS)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**APPLICANT(S):** Frank J. Viola.                      **EXAMINER:** To Be Assigned  
**SERIAL NO.:** To Be Assigned                      **GROUP UNIT:** To Be Assigned  
**FILED:** Concurrently Herewith  
**INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.:** PCT/US03/010231  
**INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE:** 03 April 2003  
**PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED:** 10 April 2002  
**TITLE:** SURGICAL CLIP APPLIER WITH HIGH TORQUE JAWS

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir/Madam:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

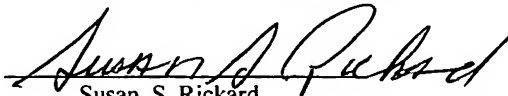
**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 13 of this paper.

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**CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.10**

I hereby certify that this correspondence and the documents referred to as enclosed are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on date below in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Mail Label Number EJ640407111US addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: 10/1/2004

  
Susan S. Rickard